

CLAIMS

1. The use of sugar esters as active components for the production of cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations.
2. The use of sugar esters as anti-inflammatory components.
- 5 3. The use of sugar esters as active components for protecting the skin and hair against the effect of UV radiation.
4. The use of sugar esters as active components for protecting the skin and hair against environmental toxins and oxidative stress.
5. The use of sugar esters as anti-ageing components.
- 10 6. The use of sugar esters as anti-protease components.
7. The use of sugar esters as active components for inhibiting the synthesis of melanin in skin and hair cells.
8. The use of sugar esters as active components for inhibiting hair growth.
- 15 9. The use of sugar esters as active components for modulating and reducing the proliferation of keratinocytes.
10. The use of sugar esters as anti-acne components.
11. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that sugar esters derived from mono-, di- and/or oligosaccharides are used.
- 20 12. The use claimed in claim 11, characterized in that saccharides selected from the group consisting of glucose, methyl glucose, mannose, galactose, rhamnose, fucose, fructose, ribose, deoxyribose, arabinose, xylose, sucrose, maltose, isomaltose, cellobiose, melibiose, gentobiose are used.
- 25 13. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that sugar esters derived from fatty acids corresponding to formula (I):



(I)

- 30 in which R^1CO is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated acyl or

hydroxyacyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms and 0 and/or 1 to 3 double bonds, are used.

14. The use of sugar esters as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 13, characterized in that sugar esters derived from dicarboxylic acids
5 containing 22 to 22 carbon atoms are used.

15. The use of sugar esters as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that sugar esters with an average degree of esterification of 1 to 6 are used.

16. The use of sugar esters as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 15,
10 characterized in that the sugar esters are used in quantities of 0.0001 to 10% by weight, based on the preparation.